

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAJ-01  
DHA-02 /072 W  
-----241638Z 023457 /65

R 241522Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9785  
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, CZ, UK  
SUBJECT: BRITISH CP STATEMENT ON "CHARTER 77" DE-  
VELOPMENTS

REFERENCE: LONDON 1001

1. UNDER THE TITLE, "BRITISH COMMUNISTS' 'SERIOUS  
CONCERN' ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA," JANUARY 21 ISSUE OF  
"MORNING STAR" CONTINUED REFTEL LINE OF PROTEST AGAINST  
CZECHOSLOVAK HARASSMENT OF "CHARTER 77" SIGNATORIES WITH  
OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF BRITISH COMMUNIST PARTY POLITICAL  
COMMITTEE. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF STATEMENT:

2. BEGIN TEXT:  
RECENT EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA MUST CAUSE SERIOUS  
CONCERN AMONG COMMUNISTS AND OTHER FRIENDS OF THAT  
COUNTRY, THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY  
SAID IN A STATEMENT YESTERDAY. IT CONTINUED:  
MANY SIGNATORIES OF A DOCUMENT MAKING CRITICISMS OF  
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THE WAY IN WHICH THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM OPERATES THERE,  
PARTICULARLY IN RELATION TO HUMAN RIGHTS, HAVE BEEN  
HARASSED, AND SOME HAVE NOW BEEN ARRESTED.  
THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST  
PARTY, RUDE PRAVO, ALLEGED ON JANUARY 12 THAT CHARTER 77  
IS: "AN ANTI-STATE, ANTI-SOCIALIST, ANTI-PEOPLE AND  
DEMAGOGIC PAMPHLET WHICH GROSSLY AND FALSELY SLANDERS

THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC," WHOSE AUTHORS SPEAK FROM  
"COSMOPOLITAN POSITIONS" AND "REJECT SOCIALISM AS A  
SOCIAL SYSTEM."

NOWHERE IN THE COURSE OF A 3,000-WORD ARTICLE ARE  
THESE ALLEGATIONS BACKED BY A SINGLE QUOTATION FROM THE  
DOCUMENT.

DEFAMATORY LABELS ARE ATTACHED TO SUPPORTERS. JIRI  
HAJEK, A VETERAN COMMUNIST AND FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER OF  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA, EXPELLED FROM THE PARTY FOLLOWING THE  
1968 MILITARY INTERVENTION BY FIVE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES,  
IS CALLED "A LOYAL SERVANT OF IMPERIALISM AND ITS  
RELIABLE AGENT."

FRANTISEK KRIEGL, ANOTHER LIFE-LONG COMMUNIST WHO  
FOUGHT IN THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE WHICH DEFENDED THE  
SPANISH REPUBLIC AGAINST THE FRANCO FASCISTS AND ARMED  
FORCES OF HITLER AND MUSSOLINI, IS CALLED AN "INTER-  
NATIONAL ADVENTURER."

THEY AND OTHER SIGNATORIES OF CHARTER 77 ARE ALSO  
ACCUSED OF ACTING ON THE ORDERS OF "ANTI-COMMUNIST AND  
ZIONIST CENTERS."

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO BE ALARMED AT THE USE OF SUCH  
METHODS AND LANGUAGE WHICH HAVE LONG SINCE BEEN DIS-  
CREDITED IN THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT, AND WHICH AROUSE  
MEMORIES OF THE NOTORIOUS 1952 FRAME-UP OF RUDOLF SLANSKY  
AND OTHER LEADERS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY WHO  
WERE CRIMINALLY EXECUTED OR SENTENCED TO LONG TERMS OF  
IMPRISONMENT.

RUDE PRAVO REFUSES TO PRINT THE VIEWS OF THOSE IT  
ATTACKS ON THE GROUNDS THAT "IT WILL NOT ACT AS A TRIBUNE  
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OF A JUNTA OF  
COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY PRETENDERS."

SO PEOPLE DO HAVE A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW ON THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM FROM THAT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK  
AUTHORITIES ARE DENIED ANY MEANS OF EXPRESSING IT IN THE  
CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS, AND ARE THEN ATTACKED WHEN THEY SEEK  
OTHER WAYS OF MAKING THEIR VIEWS KNOWN.

SOME OF THOSE MAKING THE ATTACKS ON THEM HAVE NOT  
READ THE DOCUMENT THEY ARE OPPOSING.

WE BELIEVE THAT THIS METHOD OF DEALING WITH POLITICAL  
DIFFERENCES IS WRONG, AND CAN ONLY HOLD BACK THE DEVELOP-  
MENT OF SOCIALIST SOCIETY.

OUR PARTY ALWAYS HAS AND ALWAYS WILL DEFEND THE  
SOCIALIST STATES AGAINST THEIR ENEMIES, EXTERNAL AND  
INTERNAL.

IN 1948 WHEN THE WORKING PEOPLE TOOK STATE POWER IN  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA THE COMMUNIST PARTY AND THE DAILY WORKER  
(THE PREDECESSOR OF THE MORNING STAR) DEFENDED THE YOUNG  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC AND EXPOSED THE UNTRUTHS BEING SPREAD

BY RIGHT-WING LABOR MINISTERS, THE TORIES. THE CAPITALIST  
PRESS AND ALL OTHER ENEMIES OF SOCIALISM.  
WHILE IT IS FOR THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE AND COM-

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAJ-01  
DHA-02 /072 W  
-----241639Z 023489 /65

R 241522Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9786  
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
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MUNISTS TO DECIDE THEIR OWN POLICY, WHAT HAPPENS THERE  
MUST BE OF CONCERN TO COMMUNISTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, ES-  
PECIALLY BECAUSE THE PRESENT EVENTS HAVE THEIR ORIGINS IN  
THE MILITARY INTERVENTION BY SOME OF THE WARSAW PACT  
POWERS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN 1968 AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE  
CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT, THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE  
LEADERSHIP OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY.  
IT WAS CLAIMED AS A JUSTIFICATION THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA  
WAS THREATENED WITH COUNTER-REVOLUTION.  
BUT IT WAS LEADERS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, NOT  
S, WHO WERE ARRESTED BY THE MILI-  
TARY FORCES WHICH ENTERED THE COUNTRY.  
THE MILITARY INTERVENTION DID NOT, AND COULD NOT,  
RESOLVE THE POLITICAL PROBLEMS, ARISING FROM THE DIS-  
TORTIONS OF SOCIALISM AND DEPARTURES FROM SOCIALIST  
LEGALITY PRIOR TO 1968, WHICH THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE  
WERE ATTEMPTING TO GRAPPLE WITH.

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TO ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE POLITICAL PROBLEMS TODAY BY  
HARASSMENT AND REPRESSION CAN ONLY MAKE MATTERS WORSE.  
WE APPEAL TO THE LEADERSHIP OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY  
OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO PUT AN END TO THIS SITUATION, TO  
RELEASE THOSE ARRESTED AND TO END THE HARASSMENT OF OTHER  
SIGNATORIES OF CHARTER 77. END TEXT

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## Message Attributes

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